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Date of Deposit: September 11, 2003

Our Case No.: 659-1764  
K-C Ref. 15960.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Van Gompel et al.

Serial No.: Div. of S/N 09/855,028

Filing Date: September 11, 2003

For: METHOD OF ASSEMBLING AN  
EXPANDABLE ABSORBENT  
GARMENT

Prior Examiner: Catharine L. Anderson

Prior Group Art Unit No.: 3761

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

U.S. Patent No.	Issue Date	Patentee
RE 26,151	1/1967	DUNCAN ET AL.
3,890,973	6/1975	DAVIS ET AL.
3,890,973	6/1975	DAVIS ET AL.
3,926,189	12/1975	TAYLOR
3,929,134	12/1975	KARAMI
3,999,547	12/1976	HERNANDEZ
4,710,187	12/1987	BOLAND ET AL.
5,197,959	3/1993	BUELL
RE 34,920	4/1995	AZIZ ET AL.
5,702,377	12/1997	COLLIER, IV, ET AL.
5,855,572	1/1999	SCHMIDT
6,020,535	2/2000	BLLENKE ET AL.
6,096,017	8/2000	OSBORN, III
6,102,892	8/2000	PUTZER ET AL.
6,132,410	10/2000	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.
6,129,720	10/2000	BLLENKE ET AL.
6,183,458	2/2001	AHLSTRAND ET AL.
6,217,563 B1	4/2001	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.
6,264,641 B1	7/2001	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.
6,336,922 B1	1/2002	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.
6,361,527	3/2002	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.
6,375,646	4/2002	WIDLUND ET AL.
6,406,465	6/2002	OTSUBO

#### Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.	Date	Country
0 190 881 A2	1/1986	EP
JP 03176053 A	7/1991	JAPAN
3-205053	9/1991	JAPAN
WO 98/27907	7/1998	PCT
WO 01/49231 A1	7/2001	PCT
EP 0 907 510 B1	3/2002	EPO

#### Other Art

International Search Report, mailed on September 20, 2002.
Written Opinion, PCT/US02/15017, mailed April 16, 2003.
Summary of Comments from Taiwan Intellectual Property Office concerning Patent Application No. 91109733 in Taiwan, July 28, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/855,028, filed May 14, 2001 and is relied upon for an earlier filing dated under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with Rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) only copies of documents not previously cited and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior application Serial No. 09/855,028 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Stover', is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew D. Stover  
Registration No. 38,629  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. Divisional of S/N 09/855,028	CASE NO. 659-1764 K-C Ref. No. 15960.1
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE September 11, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3761
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Van Gompel et al.	

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION**
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	RE 26,151	1/1967	DUNCAN ET AL.		
	A2	3,890,973	6/1975	DAVIS ET AL.		
	A3	3,890,973	6/1975	DAVIS ET AL.		
	A4	3,926,189	12/1975	TAYLOR		
	A5	3,929,134	12/1975	KARAMI		
	A6	3,999,547	12/1976	HERNANDEZ		
	A7	4,710,187	12/1987	BOLAND ET AL.		
	A8	5,197,959	3/1993	BUELL		
	A9	RE 34,920	4/1995	AZIZ ET AL.		
	A10	5,702,377	12/1997	COLLIER, IV, ET AL.		
	A11	5,855,572	1/1999	SCHMIDT		
	A12	6,020,535	2/2000	BLLENKE ET AL.		
	A13	6,096,017	8/2000	OSBORN, III		
	A14	6,102,892	8/2000	PUTZER ET AL.		
	A15	6,132,410	10/2000	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.		
	A16	6,129,720	10/2000	BLLENKE ET AL.		
	A17	6,183,458	2/2001	AHLSTRAND ET AL.		
	A18	6,217,563 B1	4/2001	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.		
	A19	6,264,641 B1	7/2001	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.		
	A20	6,336,922 B1	1/2002	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.		
	A21	6,361,527	3/2002	VAN GOMPEL ET AL.		
	A22	6,375,646	4/2002	WIDLUND ET AL.		
	A23	6,406,465	6/2002	OTSUBO		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A24	0 190 881 A2	1/1986	EP		
	A25	JP 03176053 A	7/1991	JAPAN		X
	A26	3-205053	9/1991	JAPAN		X
	A27	WO 98/27907	7/1998	PCT		
	A28	WO 01/49231 A1	7/2001	PCT		
	A29	EP 0 907 510 B1	3/2002	EPO		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. Divisional of S/N 09/855,028	CASE NO. 659-1764 K-C Ref. No. 15960.1
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(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Van Gompel et al.	

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
	A30	International Search Report, mailed on September 20, 2002.
	A31	Written Opinion, PCT/US02/15017, mailed April 16, 2003.
	A32	Summary of Comments from Taiwan Intellectual Property Office concerning Patent Application No. 91109733 in Taiwan, July 28, 2003.

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